



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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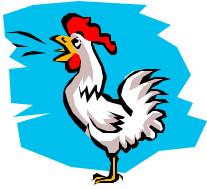
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were mostly trending unchanged for next week's trading. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was light to fair and food service slowed some, but was still fair to moderate. Supplies were balanced to tight on heavy weights, adequate to fully adequate on smaller sizes. In the parts structure, breast items were in good balance and clearing, wings were sufficient to tight with good movement, and dark meat items were adequate to ample with little interest. In production areas, live supplies were desirable to light, mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 03/13-03/18/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	42.00-45.00	42.00-59.75	45.32	22
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	61.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	47.00-49.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	62.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	54.00-57.00	44.00-57.50	55.90	84

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
538	53.00-59.00	57.21

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	141.50	3,840
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.00	1,680
THIGH MEAT - B/S	75.50	596
LEG QUARTERS	19.50	7,565
WINGS	54.00	2,584

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was at best moderate with features and promotions having best interest. Supplies were in good balance for trade needs. In the parts structure, wings were tight to sufficient with good demand, breast items were balanced to well cleared and moving, and dark meat items were more than adequate with light movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was steady to fully steady. Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Reported trading for next weeks' deliveries were at prices generally unchanged to slightly higher. Offerings generally adequate. Buying activity was fair. Retail demand for whole body was light to moderate, best by stores; and fairly good for parts, best where featured. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged into Chicago, TFEWR elsewhere from last Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings were limited, buyers generally satisfied with regular commitments. Retail demand was irregular, slow to light into Michigan and St. Louis, moderate to good into Ohio and fair into Chicago. Food service movement was moderate at best. Supplies adequate to ample, sizes desirable. Parts trading was slow to fair overall. Supplies of all items were adequate for trade needs. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady on bone-in breasts, wings firm, and about steady on remainder.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers continued fair heading into the week-end. Offerings were at least adequate on the lighter birds and sometimes tight on the heavier weights. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was mostly moderate. The market tone was steady to fully steady with the larger birds in the strongest position. In the parts market, wings continued short to adequate. All other items were usually sufficient.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fairly good on the generally well balanced supply of the over 3 pound sizes; fair on the fully adequate lighter weights. Live supplies were about moderate; weights were desirable to light. Processing schedules were reduced in spots and moderate overall. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 49 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, breast cuts were in generally good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Wings were well balanced to closely cleared and in best demand. Leg items were ample, particularly whole legs.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	47-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	52.81
NO. OF BOXES	7,010
CUMULATIVE	03/06/00-03/10/00 51.66
	03/08/99-03/12/99 56.92
NO. OF BOXES	03/06/00-03/10/00 39,313
	03/08/99-03/12/99 33,958

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

MAR 09, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAR 10, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	563	129.00-187.00	130-135	134.92	644	125.00-187.00	130-135	134.05	2,736	134.87
TENDERLOINS	63	125.00-168.00	125-130	139.87	167	120.00-200.00	-	165.46	491	157.37
BREAST - LINE RUN	123	66.00- 70.00	66-68	68.85	105	67.00- 70.00	67-68	68.89	600	68.81
FRONT HALVES	45	59.00- 62.00	-	61.33	TOO FEW TO REPORT				255	61.26
LEGS	48	25.50- 34.00	25.5-27	26.92	89	25.00- 34.00	25-27	26.36	292	27.26
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	519	15.00- 19.00	15-16	15.59	629	15.00- 18.00	15-16	15.69	2,718	15.65
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,180	16.50- 20.00	19-20	19.12	1,256	16.75- 20.00	19-20	19.16	5,776	19.14
WINGS (WHOLE)	103	49.00- 54.00	49-51	50.75	103	51.00- 54.00	50-52	51.98	515	50.52
WINGS (CUT)	392	59.00- 74.00	61-62	63.73	461	59.00- 74.00	62-63	65.58	2,132	63.28
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				38	46.63
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				38	46.63
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				41	73.00

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAR 09, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

TRADING FOR MAR 10, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**5-DAY****RANGE****AVERAGE****RANGE****AVERAGE****AVERAGE**

37.00 - 40.50

38.46

39.00 - 40.50

39.35

38.53

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest ended the week on a mostly quiet note as many dealers continued to view the market cautiously. Offerings of wings were tight to adequate and all other parts were generally adequate for current trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was light to fair and was best for features. The market tone was fully steady to firm on wings and steady with caution on the remainder of items.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**			TRADING*	AVG**			WTD AVG	WTD VOL
BREAST - B/S	135-140	140.25	425,600		135-140	139.33	617,400	139.13	2,343,130	
TENDERLOINS	120	129.55	58,620		120	130.17	105,160	127.39	365,960	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	64-65	72.57	170,400		64-65	72.73	166,480	72.77	803,320	
BREAST - LINE RUN	64	67.79	169,600		64	68.43	139,240	68.03	816,260	
LEGS	26-27	31.08	146,520		26-27	31.51	207,580	31.33	865,340	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.49	363,868		16-17	18.23	329,939	18.41	1,880,874	
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	33.38	113,610		36-37	32.87	123,160	32.79	481,870	
THIGHS	21-22	26.85	69,450		21-22	29.73	60,650	29.24	415,880	
B/S THIGHS	70-71	72.55	33,960		70-71	73.22	47,680	72.30	196,860	
WINGS (WHOLE)	47-48	54.65	183,480		48-49	55.40	211,480	53.41	1,032,840	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.02	37,800		10-12	12.00	43,720	12.02	229,880	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.11	32,080		30-35	33.89	44,960	32.59	186,145	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.33	51,880		55-60	59.92	61,920	59.32	263,330	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	03/10	03/09	03/08	03/07	03/08	03/07	03/03	03/01
ALA	3,902	3,947	3,738	3,807	5.09	5.10	3,888	5.05
ARK	4,776	4,954	5,109	7,234	4.88	4.99	5,390	4.90
DELMARVA	2,238	2,416	2,411	2,390	5.07	5.02	2,722	5.09
KY-LA-TN	1,983	2,057	2,060	2,028	4.38	4.89	1,960	4.39
MISS	2,814	2,601	2,695	2,391	5.07	5.00	2,723	4.99
NC	2,535	2,568	2,180	2,555	5.83	6.01	2,882	5.72
TEXAS	2,365	2,230	2,204	2,184	4.80	4.82	2,222	4.78
TOTAL	20,613	20,773	20,397	22,589	5.01	5.07	21,787	5.00
MON-FRI104,052(A)							104,287(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 10-Mar and 11-Mar-00 is estimated to be 30,839,000 down 5.67 percent from a week ago and down 3.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 32,694,000; last year 31,791,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 11-Mar-00 is estimated to be 159,161,000 head up 2.7 percent from a week ago, and up 5.8 percent from a year ago (Last week 154,916,000 Last year 150,397,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP		77-90
HENS UNDER 5#		
HENS OVER 5#		79
DUCKS		125
RABBITS-WHOLE		299
RABBITS-CUT UP		309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104-108
	ICE PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	95
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Feb. 26, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	THOUSANDS		
Head	32,847	24,195	43,049
Avg Weight	3.82	4.78	6.06
% of total /1	33%	24%	43%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	40,609	27,780	37,913
Avg Weight	3.82	4.83	6.16
% of total /1	38%	26%	36%
Same week, yr ago /2	30,495	31,287	48,775
Avg Weight	3.85	4.87	6.08
% of total /1	28%	28%	44%
To date/2000	270,527	230,920	327,269
To date/1999	268,064	252,179	347,071

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 05-Mar-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	154,916(A)	2,111	1,361	3,472	433
AVG WT	5.20	3.40	7.79	5.12	6.52
LAST WEEK	152,233	1,915	1,349	3,264	394
YR AGO	149,611	1,928	1,348	3,276	454
AVG WT	4.94	3.38	7.63	5.13	6.65
TO-DATE/2000	1,383,434	18,255	12,011	30,266	4,160
TO-DATE/1999	1,353,624	19,523	11,933	31,456	4,254

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 153.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 156.8 million head or 3.5 million head more than or 102 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAR 07, 2000

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.56 - .62	Silkie	3.00 - 3.75ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.58 - .64	Geese 9-14	.20 - .34
Pekin Ducks	.40 - .62	Pigeons	2.50 - 3.10ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.40 - .62	White Pigeons	2.75 - 3.50ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .84	Rabbits 4-6	1.10 - 1.54
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .82	Rabbits 7-11	1.00 - 1.32
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - 1.02	Bunnies	2.00 - 6.50ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - .96	Guinea Pigs	3.00 - 7.50ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.75 - 2.10	Kid Goats	17.00 - 43.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.75ea.	Doves	3.50 - 5.50ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 3.50ea.	Pullets	.60 - .84
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .32		
Total Coops Sold	672		

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 06-Mar-00

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	51-56	54-56
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to moderately good. Sizes were desirable to heavy. Schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 06-MAR-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

WEEK ENDING		MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
JANUARY	29	146.1	151.7	96	4.89
FEBRUARY	5	162.7	152.4	107	5.16
	12	157.9	152.1	104	4.87
	19	157.1	152.5	103	5.10
	26	154.1	152.7	101	4.97
MARCH	4	156.8	153.3	102	5.20
YEAR TO DATE		1400.3	1358.1	103	
MARCH	11		153.8		
	18		153.3		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 04-Mar-00 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 4,209 HD, 21,845 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 716 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	THOUSANDS				
W/E	03/11/00	03/04/00	% CHG	03/13/99	% CHG
Broilers	159,161	*154,916	+03	*150,397	+06
Cattle	664	682	-03	*650	+02
Hogs	1,903	1,916	0	*1,937	-02

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were irregular but values were about steady on light cannery and unchanged to slightly lower on heavies. Demand was light to good for irregular offerings of heavies. Interest was about normal for usually sufficient offerings of lights. The undertone was steady on light and about steady to steady on heavy cannery.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
26.5-28 MAJORITY	33.5-38 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
26-29.5 MAJORITY 26-28	34-40 MAJORITY 39-39.75

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair for reduced but adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reported as about normal. The undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was still fairly good for fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were usually normal. The undertone was generally steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY	RANGE	MAJORITY
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading		

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked full schedules. Offerings generally adequate.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices unchanged. Demand was light as offerings were at least fully sufficient for current needs. Trade sentiment steady.

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